

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claim 35 has been amended. Claims 1-19, 21-26 and 34-41 are pending and under consideration, and claims 1-19, 21-26, 34, and 36-41 are allowed.

Office Action, the Examiner rejected claim 35 under 35 USC § 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,366,376 to Miyata.

By this Amendment, claim 35 has been amended to clarify the features of the present invention. It is submitted that the amendments to claim 35 are supported by figures 12-14 of the drawings and page 71, line 19 to page 75, line 11 of the specification.

U.S. Patent 6,366,376 to Miyata is directed to an optical transmitting device which combines a plurality of signal lights, each having a different, corresponding frequency into a wavelength division multiplex signal light. Miyata et al. discloses WDM signal light obtained by wavelength division multiplexing a plurality of optical signals having different wavelengths and arranged at an unequal interval as disclosed by Figure 6 and col. 20, lines 28-56 of the specification. However, Miyata et al. does not teach or suggest the claimed system of claim 35, which recites:

“wherein

a set of said first and second optical fiber networks has normal or anomalous dispersion,

a zero dispersion point of one of said first and second optical fiber networks is near a wavelength of said pumping light,

a zero dispersion point of the other of said first and second optical networks is farther from the wavelength of said pumping light than the zero dispersion point of the one of said first and second optical networks, and

influences of dispersion are substantially equal between near center channels of said first and second optical fiber networks”.

Thus, claim 35 recites that “*influences of dispersion are substantially equal between near center channels of said first and second optical fiber networks.*” As explained at page 74, line 16-23 of the specification, the system of claim 35 provides significant advantages in that it is useful for construction of a long haul system.

In summary, it is submitted that claim 35 distinguishes over the prior art. Reconsideration of claim 35 is respectfully requested.

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There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

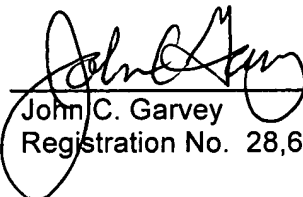
Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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